

THE LEDGER.

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1891.

HELP.

The people of Mexico and Audrain county should at once organize and raise a fund for the people who were ruined by the cyclone. They are among our most worthy and hard working people. They have lost their all and death is in their homes. Help is needed and needed badly and at once.

HATCH is booming for Speaker. The daily LEDGER is "in it" and "that's no joke".

THE outlook for the farmers of Audrain county was never better. That sensation is about ripe and will be plucked right away, quick. PRESIDENT HARRISON is in Washington and the nation can go on again.

HON. RICHARD DALTON's boom for Governor is flourishing in spite of these cool nights.

It looks as though the convention now in session at Cincinnati would form a third party.

THE KING of Greece has made \$6,000,000 in speculation. He probably hit the hard market at the proper time.

WHAT's the use of our sending missionaries to China? ThePekin Gazette refers to us as "barbarous Americans."

EVERY farmer in the county is interested in the success of the Mexico Fair and should prepare to make entries, either in the Floral Hall, Agricultural Hall or in the stock rings.

It is time for the Democrats of Audrain County and State of Missouri to organize their clubs. We should have a dozen clubs in this county like the one which is in such a flourishing condition in Bryan School District.

THE report has gone out that the F. & L. U. of Audrain has appointed an investigating committee. Now, let the report of this committee "go forth". The citizens and taxpayers of Audrain stand high in this commonwealth. They are ready to stand on the report of this committee.

LET the investigating committee investigate. If there are any tax payers in Audrain county who are not giving in their property, call their names, no matter who they are. Don't stop before you have begun and leave the impression that something is wrong, but that you don't care to look into it. If everything is all right, so report. If anything is wrong, so report. The public records are open for your investigation.

THE committee recently appointed by the Southern Press Association to co-operate with Gen. Gordon in the collection of funds for a monument to the late Jefferson Davis, has decided upon June 18, as the day upon which the people of every town throughout the Southern States should meet to further the projected enterprise. At these meetings subscriptions will be taken for the monument fund. Arrangements will be made to have a big meeting in Mexico on this occasion.

THERE is a good deal of talk, now, about a Third Party and the effect a new party would have on the two old parties. The St. Louis Republic, speaking of this matter, says:

"With no Third Party movement in 1892 the Democratic party is sure to draw from the Republicans, if not as heavily as in 1890, yet to an extent that will make Democratic success the strongest probability of the campaign. This consideration is of itself sufficient to show that the Third Party movement is not in the Democratic interest. From the Democratic standpoint there was never more occasion than now for a square issue between Democracy and Republicanism, and never a closer approximation to certainty that on such an issue Republicanism will be worsted. It is evident that the Republican party, under its present Radical control, cannot hold or poll its vote, and if there is no Third Party the Democratic party will be re-enforced by the great majority of those opponents of Radicalism who have not hitherto been identified with the Democratic party organization.

On the other hand, Third Party movements draw little from the ranks of the party in opposition. They are invariably recruited chiefly at the expense of the party responsible for the administration. No matter what is said or done in recruiting them, they will poll four votes taken from the administration party where they get one from the opposition.

All that the Democratic party can lose by a Third Party is something of what it might have gained otherwise, but the Republican party will necessarily suffer from any general Third Party movement. Democratic chances of success will not be lessened. Indeed, they may possibly be increased, though a large Third party vote would have the effect of breaking the force of the fall for the Republicans by dividing the opposition and preventing such a tremendous showing of forces against Radicalism as was made last November.

THE F. & L. U. committee, composed of W. T. Lott, S. O. Wright and G. N. Wales, with Pat Cullen, of the Vandalia Leader, as an expert, who were to have begun the investigation of the County Assessor's books this week, in order to find out if there were any tax dodgers in Audrain county, have, we are reliably informed, decided to postpone this investigation until August. This committee is composed of representative citizens of Audrain and should proceed with their investigation, if they think one is necessary. The county officials of Audrain county are ready and anxious to furnish them with any records or facts in their possession. We think that this committee should proceed with this work as soon as possible and not stop until a full investigation is had and a complete report is made. It would appear that the F. & L. U. thought there was some need of an investigation. Since this matter has been stirred up, let it proceed to a finish. Let no guilty man escape. Let the investigation go on. Let it be thorough; let the report be full; let the names of any delinquents be given. Don't stop now and leave the impression that there are tax dodgers in this county, but make your investigation thorough and report who they are, if any. Audrain county and Audrain officials stand high in the State of Missouri, as do Audrain county tax payers. The F. & L. U. of this county seems to take the position that there is something rotten with some of the tax payers. Go on with this investigation and make it thorough and correct, and let the report be full and complete. Let this matter be settled promptly and satisfactorily.

THE pessimists declare that many of our crops have been badly injured by the freshness of the spring weather. There are some regions unscathed by drought and unharmed by frost, however, and despite the dark predictions the Michigan fields will yet blush with strawberries, Dakota's plains will still mold astonishing peaches, the quiet Georgian plantations will be ornate with the dark, bottle-green embroidery of the watermelon vine and Missouri will have splendid crops of all kinds. The pessimists should stop croaking. They will be as hungry for the good things later on as though they had not tried to freeze them out with cold and cynical predictions.

CHILDREN'S day at the M. E. Church, South, was celebrated Sunday with a most pleasant and instructive programme. The little folks were out in force and the results were most gratifying. THE LEDGER sensation is to be reserved for the Grand Jury, which meets in June.

BEING BORN. A Third Party to Be Formed at Cincinnati—The Southern Delegates Opposed to It. CINCINNATI, O., May 20.—That there will be a new party organized is now beyond doubt. What it will be named is still an open question. The naming of the party is just as much liable to make trouble as very serious plank in its platform of principles. The chief trouble that the serious men assembled here now encounter is the thoughtless frivolity of mushroom organizations representing cities and organized for the occasion. These city organizations, with little or no sympathy for farmers or the grievances of farmers, are trying to capture the convention, and unless a basis of representation according to States is adopted they will do it. The chances now are that the delegations will be admitted on the State basis. This will knock out the bunnies, who are claiming to represent the cities.

THE SOUTHERN FARMERS FEAR NEGRO RULES. Outside of this the largest question of politics involved is that of section. The Southern men are not going into the third party movement with anything like spirit. There are men from the South quite willing to embark in the third party enterprise, but they are not the men of influence, the men who wield delegations and sway the convention. The Southern men seem to be indispensed to risk a new party that might involve force bills and negro domination. The Southern men are still afraid of the negro. They are not ready to risk the division among the white people of the South. As long as this fear is predominant the timidity of the Southern men will be palpable and it will have a serious effect upon the general policy of the Alliance. It is a mistake to think that the South controls the Alliance. It does not, but the Northern men are afraid to swing matters as they would desire because of the timidity of the Southern brother because of the negro in the woodpile.

There are about seventy-five Missourians trying to make ends meet here. They don't know how they are going to do it, but they are going to try. Missouri brought out some honors in the first organization. Mr. Orville Dickens Jones was made secretary. Jones lives in Knott county. He was the Union-Labor candidate for Supreme Judge last fall. Charley Cunningham made a very poor presiding officer. Charley did not care for appearances and fell down talking too much. Jones, the Missouri secretary, is a strong, reasonable man, who does not care for appearances. He is of Democratic ancestry. Missouri seems to be doing reasonably well.

FEARFUL FURY.

Death and Devastation in Various Parts of Audrain County.

Cyclone-Swept.

Several Persons Killed and Many Wounded.

Farm Houses Swept Away and Fields Ruined.

JNO. HARRISON'S ENTIRE FAMILY INJURED.

Three Instantly Killed, Five Mortally Hurt, Twenty-five More or Less Injured.

Path of the Storm on a Direct Line from Centralia to Laddonia—Six Miles North of Mexico the Worst.

THE DEAD. Balsa Kunkel. Infant daughter of John Doerge. Homer Rogers, of near Centralia.

MORTALLY HURT. Those not expected to live are: Mrs. Seal. Miss Seal. Miss Gertrude Fletcher. Nine year old daughter of John Doerge.

About 3:30 yesterday afternoon, while several gentlemen were sitting at the east front of the Court House, talking about cyclones and their marvelous powers, death and destruction were being wrought by a cyclone only six miles north of Mexico, and the results surpass any of the stiff yarns told by the gentlemen who had heard of cyclones, but had never seen one. We shall not undertake to describe the ruin brought about by this terrible electric storm. It would be impossible. Only one who has seen such a storm or who has examined its path can appreciate its power.

As soon as the report reached Mexico, at about 5 o'clock, the editor of the LEDGER, with the physicians of Mexico and about fifty other citizens, hastened to the scene of death and devastation. Beginning on the west and going east along the track of the storm, which appeared to have been only about one hundred yards wide, we found that the residence of Alex. Carter had been blown down. Mrs. Frank Carter, who was in the house, saw it coming and ran into the cellar and there escaped. Billie Powell's house was blown down, but the family ran to shelter behind the hill and in this way escaped. The storm made a terrible roar and was heard and seen for a mile or so before it arrived, and for this reason many lives were saved.

Just east of Carter's it struck Bob Allen's farm, but only got his fences. The house and barn belonging to the Dillard boys was blown away. The storm then took a straight shoot from Allen's along the section line east and cleaned up every house on the road for more than a mile. This lane is a sight to see and worthy of a visit from all who live within fifty miles.

BALSA KUNKEL KILLED. Balsa Kunkel lived on this lane and his house and farm were literally swept off the face of the earth. You can hardly tell where it stood. Mr. Kunkel was terribly injured and only lived for about one hour. His two sons, Otto and Henry, were both hurt, but will recover. The house of Geo. Crane was also blown entirely away, as was his barn. George, with Leslie Blade, who are baching, escaped to the apple cellar and were saved. If it had not been for the cellar they would have surely been killed, as the storm right there was very strong, actually tearing the bark from the trees and pulling up the hedge fence. The next house east was where Joe Kendall, with a hired man, were baching. The house was blown into matches and scattered over a forty acre field. Joe was not at home and the hired man had time to escape, and get into Crane's apple cellar. Tom, Workman and family were saved on account of living in a log house. They laid down close to the floor and, miraculously to say, escaped. Only the edge of the cyclone struck their house. Mrs. Yosemite's house was blown away. He has had cuts about the head and is bruised up, but will recover. His wife and a little girl, who was there, were also injured, but not seriously. Clarence Harvey, who was at his house on a visit, and is only 7 years old, was picked up and carried from 50 to 100 yards, tumbling and rolling over the corn field, but strange to say, is not considered to be dangerously hurt. T. B. Ham's house and barn were blown away, but no one was hurt. The family escaped to the cellar. The residence of Valentine Ederl was blown down and reports from Rush Hill this morning state that one of his children was killed but, we think this erroneous. AT SHELL NORRIS'. The above houses were all within a mile or so of each other, and were on the range line, six miles north of Mexico. In about the center of the above devastation was the happy home of S. S. Norris, well-known to most of our readers in this county. Shell was at home with his wife, mother-in-law, Mrs. Seal, two children, one boy and one girl, and Miss Gertrude Fletcher, and Miss Seal his sister-in-law. The house was literally ground to pieces, and carried to the sky. Every member of the family was hurt. They were all taken to the residence of E. B. Norris, a neighbor, which, when the writer arrived at this place, at 8 p. m. yesterday was a veritable hospital. The doctors had just arrived and were hard at work. It was impossible to tell just how bad they were hurt, but it is thought at least two of the family will die. Miss Seal's throat was cut clear through and she is hurt other ways and is in a critical condition. Shell himself is badly hurt, but made the doctors attend to the others first. He will recover. Mrs. Norris is not dangerously injured. The baby is badly bruised up and its right leg is mashed, but it is hoped will recover. Mrs. Seal, 60 years old, Mr. Norris' mother-in-law, it is feared, cannot recover. She is terribly mangled. Miss Gertrude Fletcher, it is thought, will die. She is terribly injured about the head and mangled about the body. It is impossible at this writing to tell just how badly any of the injured are hurt, but to one who is not a doctor it would look as though some of the patients had a poor show. We never saw a more terrible sight and trust we will never see the like again. The doctors were working nobly and doing all in their power. DEATH AT DOERGE'S. Close by where Shell Norris lived was the home of Jno. Doerge and family. Their house was torn to pieces. All their horses and other stock, which ran to the house as though for protection, were killed. One horse died with his harness on. This family consisted of John Doerge and wife and four little children. One child was killed and all the other members of the family were injured. The child killed was a beautiful little girl about six years old. The

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